

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-72. (Canceled)

73. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving a request to tune to a program being transmitted by a program provider, wherein the request is received after a start time of program transmission;

determining that a user terminal has remained tuned to the program for a predetermined threshold amount of time;

generating and communicating a request to the program provider to retrieve a copy of a portion of the program in response to the predetermined threshold amount of time being exceeded; and

receiving the copy of the portion of the program, wherein the portion comprises the program transmitted between the start time and a receipt time of the request to tune to the program.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the user terminal generates a prompt requesting approval prior to generating the request.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the user terminal automatically generates and communicates the request.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the copy does not include the portion of the program broadcasted after the receipt time.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, further comprising:
receiving a channel selection during transmission of the program;

receiving a request for a synopsis of the program during transmission of the program;

upon receipt of the request for the synopsis, identifying a portion of the program that has been transmitted as of an identified clock time; and

causing presentation of the synopsis of the program that summarizes the portion of the program that has been transmitted from a beginning of program transmission until the identified clock time.

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the synopsis is presented in a fast forward mode.

79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising requiring maintaining the channel selection for a predefined period of time before causing presentation of the synopsis.

80. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a storage medium; and

a controller operatively coupled to the storage medium, the controller being configured to cause the apparatus to perform operations comprising:

receiving a request to tune to a program being transmitted by a program provider, wherein the request is received after a start time of program transmission;

determining that the apparatus has remained tuned to the program for a predetermined threshold amount of time;

generating and communicating a request to the program provider to retrieve a copy of a portion of the program in response to the predetermined threshold amount of time being exceeded; and

receiving the copy of the portion of the program, wherein the portion comprises the program transmitted between the start time and a receipt time of the request to tune to the program.

81. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the controller is configured to cause the apparatus to generate a prompt requesting approval prior to generating the request.

82. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the controller is configured to cause the apparatus to automatically generate and communicate the request.

83. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the copy does not include the portion of the program broadcasted after the receipt time.

84. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the controller is configured to cause the apparatus to perform:

receiving a channel selection during transmission of the program;

receiving a request for a synopsis of the program during transmission of the program;

upon receipt of the request for the synopsis, identifying a portion of the program that has been transmitted as of an identified clock time; and

causing presentation of the synopsis that summarizes the portion of the program that has been transmitted from a beginning of program transmission until the identified clock time.

85. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 84, wherein the synopsis is presented in a fast forward mode.

86. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 84, wherein the controller is configured to cause the apparatus to require maintaining the channel selection for a predefined period of time before causing presentation of the synopsis.

87. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

causing, by a server, transmission of a program to a user terminal;

receiving a request from the user terminal that requests a copy of a portion of the program in response to a determination that the user terminal has remained tuned to the program in excess of a predetermined threshold amount of time; and

causing transmission of a copy of a portion of the program to the user terminal.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 87, wherein the copy of the portion of the program comprises a complete copy of the program.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 87, wherein the copy of the portion of the program comprises less than a complete copy of the program.

90. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a data storage device; and

a server operatively coupled to the data storage device, the server being configured to cause the system to perform operations comprising:

causing transmission of a program to a user terminal;

receiving a request from the user terminal that requests a copy of a portion of the program in response to a determination that the user terminal has remained tuned to the program in excess of a predetermined threshold amount of time; and

causing transmission of a copy of a portion of the program to the user terminal.

91. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 90, wherein the copy of the portion of the program comprises a complete copy of the program.

92. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 90, wherein the copy of the portion of the program comprises less than a complete copy of the program.